

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KABUL 08360 081328Z

42

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 IO-14 DRC-01

OMB-01 /135 W

----- 075590

O R 081305Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6073

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 8360

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PK, AF

SUBJ: PAKISTAN-AFGHAN RELATIONS

SUMMARY: DEPFONMIN ABDULLAH DEC 8 ASKED FOR US DIPLOMATIC ASSSISTANCE WITH PAKISTAN TO FACILITATE THE CROSSING INTO PAKISTAN ON THEIR ANNUAL MIGRATION OF SOME TWO MILLION AGGHAN TRIBESMEN.

1. DEPUTY FONMIN ABDULLAH SUMMONED ME DEC 8 TO TELL ME OF A PROBLEM THAT HAS JUST ARISEN AGAIN IN AFGHANISTAN'S RELATIONS WITH PAKISTAN. ABDULLAH SAID THAT THE PAKISTANI AUTHORITIES A FEW WEEKS AGO ASKED THAT ALL TRIBESMEN MIGRATING ACROSS THE BORDER INTO PAKISTAN HAVE HEALTH CERTIFICATES AND PASSPORTS. THE GOA POINTED OUT THE DIFFICULTY OF GIVING HEALTH EXAMINATIONS AND PROVIDING HEALTH CERTIFICATES, AND THE GOP SUBSEQUENTLY WITHDREW THIS REQUEST.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 KABUL 08360 081328Z

THE PAKS, HOWEVER, CONTINUE TO INSIST ON THE TRIBESMEN BEING

SUPPLIED WITH PASSPORTS, AND THE GOA HAS ISSUED PASSPORTS TO ABOUT TWO MILLION TRIBESMEN.

2. THESE TWO MILLION TRIBESMEN, ACCORDING TO ABDULLAH, ARE NOW POISED IN KANDAHAR, PAKTIA AND NANGARHAR PROVINCES, WAITING FOR PAKISTANI VISAS IN THEIR PASSPORTS. ABDULLAH SAID THAT THE PAKISTANIS, DESPITE THE FACT THAT THEY HAVE CONSULATES IN TWO OF THESE PROVINCES (KANDAHAR AND NANGARHAR) HAVE SO FAR ISSUED NO VISAS AND ARE EMPLOYING WHAT ABDULLAH BELIEVES TO BE DELAYING TACTICS. IN THE MEANTIME, HE HAS REPORTS THAT THE TRIBESMEN ARE GETTING RESTLESS AND MAY MOVE ACROSS THE BORDER WITHOUT VISAS, POSSIBLY PROVOKING ARMED CLASHES.

3. ABDULLAH SAID THAT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM TO DEAL WITH THE PAK AMBASSADOR IN KABUL ON THIS SUBJECT BECAUSE HE HAS NO INTEREST IN SOLVING PROBLEMS. (HOWEVER, PAK DCM BABAR HAS TOLD US THAT HE SPENT SEVERAL HOURS TODAY IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY DISCUSSING THIS SUBJECT). THEREFORE ABDULLAH ASKED ME TO RELAY THE FOREGOING TO AMBASSADOR BYROADE AND TO ASK AMBASSADOR BYROADE TO DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH THE GOP AS A MATTER OF SOME URGENCY. I SAID THAT I WOULD PROMPTLY INFORM AMBASSADOR BYROADE.

4. INCIDENTALLY, ABDULLAH SAID THAT AFGHAN AMB POPAL IS CURRENTLY IN KABUL ON A VISIT FROM ISLAMABAD.
ELIOT

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